

MEMORANDUM: For the record

SUBJECT: Summary of minutes relative to the organizing of the Lower San Pitch River.

BY: Donald C. Norseth

On May 19, 1967 at 11:00 a. m. in the San Pitch County Courthouse, a meeting was held with water users of the Lower San Pitch River to discuss problems of water distribution, the appointment of a water commissioner, and the financial obligation that the water users would have to handle in setting up an organized water system. Those in attendance were:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing or Address</u>
James G. Allen	Ephraim, San Pitch River, Bagnall Ditch
John K. Olsen	Ephraim Irrigation Co., Ephraim
John E. Jensen	Moroni
Urwin A. Morley	Rocky Dam Irrigation Co.
Charles F. Petersen	Spring City
Clan Coates	Piute Irrigation Co.
Rendell Hendrickson	Gunnison-Fayette Canal Co.
Erwin Roberts	Gunnison-Fayette Canal Co.
J. Neil Nielson, Centerfield	Gunnison Irrigation Co.
Fred L. Braithwaite, Manti	North Six Mile Irrigation Co.
Keith W. Young	Sterling Irrigation Co.
Vincent Christensen	Bagnall Ditch Co.
James E. Swensen	M & M Irrigation Co.
Rulon Johnson	M & M Irrigation Co.
Ray D. Christensen	San Pitch Water Conservancy Dist.
Frank E. Peterson	Spring City
Clayton Peterson	Ephraim
Eddie Jessen	Mt. Pleasant
Joseph P. Olsen	M & M Irrigation Co. - Olsen Seely
Nels A. Sorensen	Mayfield
J. Keith Malmgren	Gunnison Irrigation Co.
Vail H. Nielson	Willow Creek Irrigation Co.
Lynn Sorenson	Gunnison Irrigation Co.
Blaine Draper	River Commissioner
Harris B. Larson	Moroni Irrigation Co.
John Bene	State Engineer's Office
Donald C. Norseth	" " "
Earl M. Staker	" " "

During the meeting, discussion centered about the following:

1. The growing water problems on the Lower San Pitch River and the increasing demand for our services, not only during the irrigation season,

but during the winter as well.

2. That most Utah river systems, particularly the larger ones, are already under a commissioner. The trend is toward the consolidation of the smaller systems into drainage areas to assist in financing the cost of water regulation.

3. The day of the unmeasured water right, as to flow and yearly acre-foot use, is rapidly approaching cessation and all users will have to be under the direction of a commissioner.

It was set out at the meeting that the Lower San Pitch River System should extend from the Bagnell Ditch to the confluence of the San-Pitch River and the Sevier River. It would also include Six-Mile Creek, Nine-Mile Creek, and Twelve-Mile Creek - the other tributary streams would then be brought in as the need arises.

Other items of discussion were:

1. That all diversions would have to be located and the flow of each determined, also headgates and measuring devices installed. The owner of these diversions would have to stand the expenses of these installations.

2. The system would have to operate under the assessment system as set out in the Utah State Code and the financial burden would have to be borne by all water users. It was decided that for the first couple of years probably an irrigated acreage basis would suffice for assessment until records had been obtained to proceed to an acre-foot delivery basis.

3. It was pointed out that the following items would have to be included in a budget:

Commissioner's Salary
Travel
Bonds and Insurance
Annual Report
Retirement
Social Security

The budget probably would be in excess of \$2000.00.

4. The duty period of the commissioner was set as April 1 to October 1, and on a call-basis during the remaining months of the year.

The representatives from the San Pitch River Drainage District suggested that a meeting be held with users of the drainage district. The drainage district was notified that a meeting would be held Monday,

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July 17, 1967 at 6:30 p.m. in the Ephraim City Building. Those attending this follow-up meeting were as follows:

Calvin Mickelson
Vail Nielsen, Secretary
Afton Larson, Treasurer
Paul Rasmussen
Juel B. Rasmussen
Roger Johnson (person to contact)

The attendance was poor but those there expressed an interest. A general summary of the May 19th meeting was presented, followed by a question and discussion period.

The officers of the San Pitch River Drainage District are as follows:

Ben Kjar, President, Manti
Vail Nielson, Secretary, Ephraim
Afton Larson, Treasurer, Ephraim

DCN/wh

cc: Earl M. Staker
Frank Reese